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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
PORTLAND SERVICE CENTER
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

TECHNICAL NOTES

MARCH 1968

"CONCRETE BRIDGE DECK CONSTRUCTION"

In a recent study by Pennsylvania State College 85.9% of 2,782 concrete bridge deck sections examined revealed defects. These deficiencies were attributed to a variety of causes. A number of recommendations for improved construction practices to minimize these causes were cited and included the following:

1. Frequent sampling of concrete should be carried out on all bridge sections to assure adequate quality control.
2. Realistic trial concrete mixes should be made before they are used in construction.
3. More care should be given to the placing of steel reinforcements.
4. Moisture content of the concrete aggregates should be determined frequently throughout the day and the mix adjusted and readjusted if necessary.
5. Concrete surfaces should not be allowed to dry before curing is begun.
6. Special care should be given to hot weather concreting of bridge decks.
7. Linseed oil coatings which help prevent frost damage should be applied to new bridge decks annually for three to four consecutive years.

Inspection of our concrete bridge construction should include these suggested practices.

If copies of this study are desired, please request from PSC Division of Engineering and they will be obtained when available.

Encl. to Info Memo. PSC-68-48
DSC-68-25